

# TAOTS PTO

## General Meeting Minutes

### Tuesday, September 13, 2017

### Cafeteria

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- I. **Principal Josephine Sportella-Giusto** welcomed everyone back. She announced some key changes and updates for this year.
  - **Enrichment Clusters** – will now take place on Friday mornings rather than Friday afternoons.
  - **Blue Ribbon Lighthouse Award** – TAOTS will receive this award in November to be presented in Orlando. Some Faculty members will attend and present to other educators on the topic “Enrichment for All”.
  - **Kids in the Game** – new program implemented for recess time. Coaches promote inclusive games. There is organized play as well as choice time. More information about the program will be presented at the next PTO Meeting.
  - **Lunch Clubs** - Grades 2-5 will have the option of joining a lunch club instead of going out for recess. Various clubs will be offered on different days of the week.
  - **Computer Science for All** - will continue this year
  - **Afterschool Programs** - begin in October
  - **Blue Cards** – \*\*Reminder to fill out and submit ASAP\*\*
- II. 6:15pm. **Welcome** by Co-Presidents, Sandy Chum-Wu and Leslie Tulumello
  - 2016-2017 Executive Board introductions: Sandy Chum-Wu and Leslie Tulumello, Co-Presidents; Elaine Fridlin, Vice President; Angela Huang, Treasurer; Anna Messina, Recording Secretary; Janice Huang, Fundraising Secretary; Ana Leon Roche, Financial Secretary; Candace Barbato, Marketing Secretary; Evelyn Yu, Co-Corresponding Secretary; Mandy Luk, Co-Corresponding Secretary
  - June 2017 Meeting Minutes were made available by Leslie Tulumello and had been up on the PTO website prior to the meeting.
  - Approval of minutes by vote of 111 yes, 0 No, 0 Abstentions
- III. **PTO and SLT Vacancies – Upcoming Special Election:**
  - Sandy Chum-Wu: Presented the open PTO Board positions (Co-Marketing Secretary and Co-Fundraising Secretary). There will be an election at the October PTO Meeting
  - Leslie Tulumello: Introduced one vacant SLT position. There will be a Special Election. More information will be backpacked.

- Further descriptions of all of the positions will be backpacked and posted on Taotspto.org.

#### IV. **Parent Involvement and Donations:**

- Sandy Chum-Wu introduced the Welcome Packet that was backpacked
- PTO is always in need of member volunteers.
- Ways to help include:
  - attending monthly meetings
  - signing up to volunteer to help at events
  - contributing not just monetarily, but with time, knowledge, contacts, etc.
  - attending community building events such as Ragamuffin and Columbus Day Parades
- Parent volunteer forms are available on Taotspto.org. Prior to each event there will be a signup sheet posted on both website and TAOTS PTO facebook page.
- The PTO office is currently in need of a copy machine.
- **Direct Appeal** – a letter describing details of Direct Appeal has been backpacked. The suggested donation is \$250 per family. Reminder to check with employers regarding their participation in corporate matching.
- **Membership Dues** - \$25 per family suggested donation to be a member of the PTO
- **Fundraise While You Shop** –
  - Amazon – a link is posted on Taotspto.org. Click on this link to earn money for the school based on a percentage of the amount spent
  - Box Tops – we will be starting a campaign very soon. Look out for more information. Begin collecting Box Tops in a baggie labeled with your child's name and class.

#### V. **Financial Report:**

- The June 30, 2017 and August 31, 2017 financial reports were presented and made available.
- Approval of financial report by vote of 111 yes, 0 no, 0 abstentions
- The 2017-2018 Budget, which was approved in June was presented.

#### VI. **Upcoming Events and Fundraisers:**

- A quick glance events calendar was made available
- Leslie Tulumello presented Fall events including:
  - **Picture Day** – PTO has chosen a new vendor based on prior year feedback. We will now have digital options with no advance purchasing. When forms come home, please reach out to the PTO if you need any help
  - **Halloween Movie Night** - more information to follow
  - **Election Day Bake Sale**
  - **Thanksgiving Pie Sale**

- Approval of Fall Fundraising Events: 111 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstentions
- There will be no Fall Catalog fundraiser this year. Please consider that when considering your direct appeal donation

VII. **Spring T-Shirt Contest:**

The winning design by Kelly Zhang was displayed. The 2<sup>nd</sup> place design by Candace Barbato was also displayed. Information on ordering will be backpacked.

VII. **New P.S. 682 Zoning Proposal:**

Sandy Chum-Wu presented. As previously discussed at PTO meetings last year, the Office of District Planning has proposed to re-designate TAOTS from a Choice school to a zoned school to alleviate the overcrowding that is occurring at P.S.247. We were told that the proposal would be presented at the CEC meeting on Monday, September 18, 2017 at 6pm. The last publicized draft did not include language signifying admission priority to be given to siblings of non-zoned students. Parents have expressed concerns. Sandy Chum-Wu has had encouraging conversations with Bob Lee, President of the CEC for District 20. He has expressed that we have his support and that he and other members of the CEC are prepared to not approve the proposal if it does not include the language giving admission priority to all siblings of non-zoned students. Attendance at the upcoming CEC meeting is still encouraged. Though the meeting is open to the public from 6-7pm., there is no opportunity for comments/questions. At 7pm, the proposal will be presented and followed by a 20-minute comment period. You must sign up to have an opportunity to speak for 2 minutes.

VIII. Meeting adjourned at 6:42pm